



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/985,891	11/06/2001	Carl N. Guerreni	P 282406	4558

7590

03/30/2006

PIPER RUDNICK LLP
Patent Prosecution Services
1200 Nineteenth Street NW
Washington, DC 20036-2412

EXAMINER

LANEAU, RONALD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3627

DATE MAILED: 03/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/985,891	GUERRERI, CARL N.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ronald Laneau	3627	

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/19/05 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Cheong et al (US 7,006,993 B1).

As per claims 1 and 18, Cheong discloses a method comprising: initializing an online account at a clearinghouse server (surrogate system server) computer over a network (fig. 3, 200); receiving indications of network sites that can be and/or cannot be accessed through the online account (inputting account information to access restricted sites through the surrogate system; fig. 7); the clearinghouse server (surrogate system server) computer receiving a request from a user's computer to access a site (user requesting site by selecting one of the appropriate merchants; fig. 24, 2408 - 2414); performing one of approving and disapproving access to the

Art Unit: 3627

requested site by the clearinghouse server computer (fig. 3, 200); and the clearinghouse server itself providing access for a user's computer to the requested site through the clearinghouse server (surrogate system server) computer when access to the requested site is approved (fig. 3, surrogate system 200 accesses merchants 292); wherein the user's computer does not directly access the requested site (fig. 3; client computer 290 accesses merchants 292 through surrogate system 200).

As per claims 2-8, Cheong discloses a method wherein the initializing and receiving of the indications include a prepaid card associated with the online account, the online account having a predetermined initial value, the online account having predetermined access restrictions to network sites therewith (col. 2, lines 28-48), setting an account balance for the online account at the clearinghouse center, setting an account balance for the online account by using one of a credit card and an electronic funds transfer from a Bank account and tracking the account balance (fig. 3, user accesses surrogate system 200 to check and track the balance).

As per claims 9-17, Cheong discloses a method comprising one of approving and disapproving access to the requested site by using one filter in the clearinghouse server (surrogate system 200) computer that compares the requested site to the indications of network sites that can be and/or cannot be accessed through the online account; setting the network sites that can be and/or cannot be accessed by using at least one theme list (figs. 1-3 and 27-29).

As per claims 19-25, Cheong discloses a method comprising: receiving at the clearinghouse server (surrogate system server) computer a set spending limit for the online account (col. 8, 26-36; fig. 9); receiving at the clearinghouse server (surrogate system server) computer indications of network sites that can be and/or cannot be accessed through online

Art Unit: 3627

account (inputting account information to access restricted sites through the surrogate system; fig. 7); the clearinghouse server (surrogate system server) computer receiving a request from a user's computer to access a site (user requesting site by selecting one of the appropriate merchants; fig. 24, 2408 - 2414); performing one of approving and disapproving access to the requested site by the clearinghouse server computer (fig. 3, 200); and the clearinghouse server itself providing access for a user's computer to the requested site through the clearinghouse server (surrogate system server) computer when access to the requested site is approved (fig. 3, surrogate system 200 accesses merchants 292); wherein the user's computer does not directly access the requested site (fig. 3; client computer 290 accesses merchants 292 through surrogate system 200).

Response to Arguments

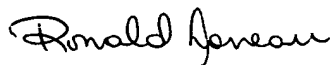
4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ronald Laneau whose telephone number is (571) 272-6784. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 8:30am - 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Kalinowski can be reached on (571) 272-6771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3627

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Ronald Laneau
Examiner
Art Unit 3627

3/23/06

rl